

# Swamp Foxes depart for AEF mission

Members of the 169th Fighter Wing said their goodbyes at McEntire as they departed for Iraq and Kyrgyzstan. Family and friends of the departing Airmen waved American flags, wiped a few tears and offered comfort to small children as they said goodbye one more time.

Deployments can be a difficult time for family members. But, members of the Swamp Fox family knew it was time to get down to business when they departed on buses to the awaiting aircraft for the more than 20 hour flight overseas. Fighter Wing personnel and volunteers from Family Programs and the local American Legion Post also supported the departing members for this first major SCANG combat deployment since 2003.

Beginning in late April, and rotating through the summer months, more than 300 members of the Fighter Wing will support Operation Iraqi Freedom at Joint Base Balad and Operation Enduring Freedom in Manas AB, Kyrgyzstan. The Fighter Wing is

deploying pilots, maintenance specialists and support personnel along with F-16s.

Col. Scott Williams, Fighter Wing commander, reminded the deploying Swamp Foxes they are the “best of the best” in the U.S. Air Force and he was proud of all the “firsts” they would accomplish.

“This is the first time an Air National Guard unit will support an AEF mission for the full 120 days,” said Williams. “We are also the first to attain a highly successful Active Associate program enabling us to accomplish this mission. This truly exemplifies



(Photo by MSgt. Marvin Preston, 169th FW/PA)

Col. Scott Williams talks to Airmen and families before departure of the main body.

the ‘one team-one fight’ concept and my hat is off to you all.”

Alex Talbert, 11, son of deploying SCANG member MSgt. Chris Talbert, a crew chief in the 169th Aircraft Maintenance

See AEF page 5—

# Many enjoy Yellow Ribbon festivities



(Photo by SSgt. Jorge Intrigo, 169th FW/PA)

Kelly Early, Military Family Life Consultant, (left) answers questions about Military OneSource during the Yellow Ribbon pre-deployment briefings held at the Radisson Hotel in Columbia, May 2.

The Yellow Ribbon pre-deployment event was held at the Radisson Hotel in Columbia on May 2. The one-day program was held for SCANG members and their families to inform them of services and benefits and answer questions.

Melissa Mitrick, the Yellow Ribbon Program Coordinator, said she was pleased with the turnout. An estimated 160 people were on hand to hear from the guest speakers on a variety of topics including TRICARE, coping strategies, Strong Bonds, and Military OneSource. Youth activities were available so parents could attend briefings.

TSgt. Jeffrey Hopper and his wife, Amy, said they were glad they attended.

“It is a really good program,” TSgt. Hopper said. “They need to keep it around.”

The Yellow Ribbon Program was designed to benefit National Guard members and their families by helping to give them access to necessary support and guide them to appropriate information, services, benefits, proactive outreach opportunities, and referrals.

(Story by TSgt. Stephen Hudson, 169th FW/PA)

# Commander's Corner



by

**Lt. Col. Scott Bridgers**  
**169th Maintenance Squadron**  
**Commander**



I have always been proud and grateful to be a member of the Swamp Foxes. There have been many moments in my career that have left lasting impressions, some stand out more than others. Being a part of the Main Body departure on 3 May will certainly be added to the top of the list. Leaders from the SCANG and Shaw AFB, family, friends, retirees, and the news media were all there wishing our members well as they headed off for combat. However, it was the first time I sent troops into a war zone as a commander. As I watched the deploying troops interact with family members it made me take into account the ultimate responsibility we have as leaders at all levels to ensure our personnel are properly equipped and prepared for combat.

Continuation and upgrade are the two basic types of training that prepare us to meet

our mission demands. I have learned over my career, especially after joining maintenance, that too much of one has a negative impact on the other. As the operations tempo increases, upgrade training suffers. Although the operational side of the house may benefit from increased flying, the support side will be focused on providing mission capable aircraft which reduces upgrade training opportunities.

Early in my career, I always thought the more flying the better, yeehaw! Stationed at Shaw in the early '90s I averaged 20 to 25 sorties a month. Although I was gaining flight experience, not being able to properly prepare or debrief each sortie led to missing many valuable execution errors and lessons learned. I later moved to Osan AB where I averaged about 10 to 15 sorties a month but I felt like I really learned a lot during my

one year at Osan.

Finding the right balance is imperative and leaders must stay involved in the process for a training program to be successful. We must listen to our personnel and accept input when warranted. Individuals must also take responsibility for their training. As budgets shrink, we cannot afford to waste valuable training opportunities. While I was stationed at Osan, a well regarded F16 pilot, Col. "Cowboy" Dulaney, spoke to our squadron about the importance of getting the most out of each flying hour. He emphasized the old adage of training like we will fight and told us a story about his squadron as they prepared for Desert Storm. Several pilots asked how he was going to execute versus the different threats they were likely to face. He confidently told them, "I am going to execute the way I've been training." For he had taken the time to prepare for each sortie, develop realistic objectives, and afterward analyze each segment to learn from.

Although we have ushered off the first wave of Swamp Foxes, we have several challenges to our "feed the fight" training program that lies ahead. First, reduced manning will require several adjustments to ensure the flying schedule and AEF preparations are met. Second, in early June the first phase of runway construction will require a displaced threshold. This will reduce our runway length to 7000 feet causing aircraft configuration changes and a comprehensive plan to accomplish desired flying training. Third, in July the second phase of airfield construction will start and we will deploy to Columbia Metropolitan Airport. After July, the word on the street is we will deploy to Savannah until our runway reopens in late Summer. The current plan calls for operating out of Savannah during the week and bringing folks back home on the weekend but as always standby for changes. Remember, the key to airpower and a successful training program is flexibility.

It was an emotional moment for every one as the names of the personnel were called to board the buses, current members, families, and retirees were hugging and shaking the hands of each member as they departed.

However, you could see the confidence in the eyes of each Swamp Fox that only comes with proper training and superior equipment. There is no doubt in my mind that we are ready and the real fear will be in the eyes of our enemies.

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Chief of Staff, JFHQ

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Assistant AG for Air

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**The SCANG News** is the official newsletter published by and for the members of the South Carolina Air National Guard. The contents of The SCANG News are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the US government, DoD, Department of the Air Force or the SCANG.

**Official Mission Statement of the 169th Fighter Wing:** To provide a trained and equipped citizen fighting force that exceeds the capability of any Guard, Reserve, or active-duty Air Force unit in the protection and defense of state and nation; to maintain the capability for worldwide deployment of combat-ready assets to meet contingency and general war requirements; to employ conventional munitions in close-air-support, interdiction, offensive counter-air, defensive counter attack, suppression of enemy air defenses and special capability AGM-65 Maverick missiles; to provide world-class units that are recognized as being the best of the best when directed by the governor to preserve and protect the life, property, peace and public safety of the citizens of South Carolina.

Submission of SCANG News material: Articles and photography are welcome and should be submitted prior to the deadline (see below). E-mail submissions to 169FW.PA.SCANGNews@ang.af.mil.

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**Deadline for the July issue is June 10**



## Chief's Concerns

Chief Master Sergeant Mark Cronk, JFHQ

New fitness standards went into effect January for Active duty airman. Implementation for Air National Guard personnel is July.

These revised standards were developed after an in-depth review of our current fitness program. They are put in place to ensure all Airmen are fit to fight and the program is administered in a fair and equitable manner. In addition to ensuring you are fit to fight, the new test is meant to encourage a healthy lifestyle that reduces health risks. The combination of being healthy and fit to fight is the ultimate goal of the program.

Active duty will be required to perform the fitness test twice a year. Traditionals will continue testing once a year. The fitness test itself has not changed significantly. However, some considerable changes to the scoring of the test will be implemented.

The components are run time (or alternate one mile walk), waist size, push-ups and sit-ups. The components of the test remain the same with the exception that the step test was eliminated and an alternative one mile walk was added.

The most notable change is there is now a minimum standard to pass for each component. However, just doing the minimum standards in each category will result in a

composite score under 75, resulting in a failure.

Some other notable changes to the program include:

A reallocation of component points to emphasize the importance of cardio-vascular health. The run time (or alternative walk) point value increases from a maximum of 50 points to 60 points. The waist size point value decreases from a maximum of 30 points to 20 points. The push-up and sit-up point values remain at 10 points each.

All components of the Fitness Assessment must be completed within a 3 hour window on the same day. Guard personnel must be in a military duty status for assessment.

Body composition (height, weight, Abdominal Circumference) must be the first component assessed. The muscular fitness components (push-ups and sit-ups) may be accomplished before or after the 1.5 mile run (or 1 mile walk). There is a minimum 3-minute rest period between components.

The time to evaluate how these new standards will affect you is now. It is our individual responsibility as Airmen to stay healthy and fit to fight. Many of us will face challenges in one area of the test or another, now is the time to begin preparation. You need to be aware of your current fitness



level and what you need to do to meet the new standards.

We as Air Force members are expected to be in compliance with Air Force standards at all times. Members who fail to comply with these standards render themselves potentially subject to adverse action.

I encourage you to review the new scoring charts in the Air Force Instruction (AFI 36-2905) to see where you stand. Additional information may be found at: <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/affitnessprogram>



## Recruiting & Retention

### Military Personnel Summary

#### Strength

##### Officers:

Authorized	143
Assigned	137
Percent Manned	95.8%

##### Airmen:

Authorized	1198
Assigned	1251
Percent Manned	<b>104.4%</b>

##### Total:

Authorized	1341
Assigned	1388
Percent Manned	<b>103.5%</b>

(as of May 12, 2010)

#### Recruiting/Retention

##### Gains:

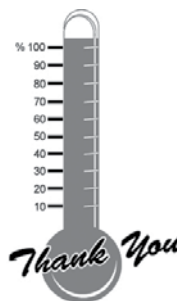
	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Prior	2	42
Non-Prior	4	74
Total	6	116

##### Losses:

ETS	0	6
Discharge	1	7
Medical	0	0
Resignation	1	4
Retirement	0	13
Transfer	0	10
Other	0	0
Total	1	40

**Net Gain/Loss +5 +76**

### Recruiting Progress We're at 103.5 percent!



**We must maintain 100%  
strength through 2010!  
Recruit & Retain!**

There are many positions open for  
immediate recruiting...

Munitions, Weapons, Crew Chiefs,  
Life Support, CE, Security Forces and more



### Free childcare available

Free childcare for children 6 weeks to 12 years is available at Fort Jackson's Child Development Center for all Guard and active duty members for posted drill dates. The CDC is located in base housing next to the Fort Jackson Commissary. Hours of operation are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. For a registration packet or more information, contact Terry DeLille, (803) 647-8089 or e-mail at carolyn.delille@ang.af.mil.

### Commander's Action Line

Have a question, concern or problem? Leave a message on the Commander's Action Line. If requested, a member of the Commander's staff will respond with a resolution. Call (803) 647-8899.

### Firing Range: No trespassing

The Base Firing Range, Bldg. 3320, is for official use only and closed to the public and to all non-authorized personnel. For more information, contact TSgt. Paul Wallace, 169th SFS, NCOIC, Combat Arms, Bldg. 979, (803) 647-8703.

### 2010 SCNG Summer Camp

Applications to the 2010 SC National Guard Youth Camp are now available. Camp Bob Cooper, located on Lake Marion in Summerton, runs from July 25-31 and costs \$150 per camper. Registration forms can be downloaded at [www.scguard.com](http://www.scguard.com) and click on the "Family Readiness" tab. For more information, contact James Harris at (803) 667-2056 or [james.e.harris@us.army.mil](mailto:james.e.harris@us.army.mil).

### Attention all graduates

The Air Force and Air National Guard wants all individuals to update their education records. If you have been awarded an associates, (other than a CCAF) bachelors or masters degree, please go by the Personnel Customer Service window and provide a transcript or supporting documents to update your records.

### H1N1 & seasonal flu vaccine

The H1N1 and the seasonal flu vaccines are mandatory. If you haven't had them, get them at the Clinic during the June drill. If you received the vaccines from a civilian provider, bring your documentation to the Clinic.

## Unit of the Year announced... tie!

Brig. Gen. Keith Coln and Col. Scott Williams announced our 2009 SCANG Unit of the Year winners and it was a tie between the 169th MXS and 169th AMXS. These units have been recognized for their continued dedication and professionalism which embodies the Air Force Core Values. Congratulations from the entire Swamp Fox family. Look for more details and photos in next month's SCANG News.

## Job Openings

The 169th Force Support Squadron officer opening, 38FX. All qualifying applicants are welcome. Applicants must qualify to become an officer with a passing AFOQT and qualifying college credits. Submit a package consisting of a letter of intent, resume and a RIP to Maj. Jack Phillips 169th Force Support Squadron Commander by July 11. For any other information, call (803) 647-8286 or (803) 231-9204 (Cell) or [lawrence.phillips@ang.af.mil](mailto:lawrence.phillips@ang.af.mil)

The 169th Medical Group has an opening for an MSC Officer, AFSC 041A3. This is a commissioning opportunity. Applicants must qualify to become an officer with a passing AFOQT and qualifying college credits. Submit a package consisting of a letter of intent, resume and a RIP to MSgt. Brad Gibson by Aug. 8 for any other information, call (803) 647-8414 or [william.gibson@ang.af.mil](mailto:william.gibson@ang.af.mil)

First Sgt. Positions open in the 169th LRS and the 169th Security Forces. Candidates must be in the rank of MSgt. or TSgt. promotable to MSgt. Submit a package consisting of a letter of intent, resume and a RIP to the 169th FW Command Chief, CMSgt. Zane Wall by June 6th. Contact Wall at [zane.wall@ang.af.mil](mailto:zane.wall@ang.af.mil) or (803) 647-8592 or (803) 608-0495 (cell).

## Summer Safety

The summer involves a lot of outdoor activities. It's also a time when heat injuries can occur. By recognizing the signs and symptoms of heat injuries airmen can stay safe or lessen their effects.

Heat Injuries can be broken down into the following categories: Sunburn Prevention, Heat Rash, Heat Cramps, Heat Exhaustion and Heat Stroke. These injuries are preventable, and by following some simple steps, can decrease susceptibility to them. Contributing factors to Heat Injuries are high temperatures, high humidity, and sun exposure. To reduce the chances of being injured drink plenty of water; avoid heavy meals at lunch time; maintain a well balanced diet; wear appropriate clothing; use sunscreen; follow recommended work/rest cycles; keep areas well-ventilated; schedule outdoor activities during the cooler part of the day; use the buddy system, and monitor those at risk.

**Sunburn Prevention:** Use sunscreen and apply it frequently. Avoid extended and repeated exposure to sunlight.

**Heat Rash:** Caused by excessive sweating in a hot humid environment. Look for a cluster of small blisters. Treat with corn-starched baby powder or taking a cool shower. Change clothes frequently and avoid lotions.

**Heat Cramps:** Caused by an excessive loss of salt from the body. The symptoms are painful muscle cramps. This injury can normally be treated by drinking cool water and resting in the shade.

**Heat Exhaustion:** Caused by an excessive loss of salt and water. Symptoms are profuse sweating, headaches, paleness, weakness, nausea, cool moist skin, and a tingling sensation in your extremities. Treat by drinking water, shade, as well as by elevating feet. Victim should be monitored, and medical attention sought immediately.

**Heat Stroke:** The worst heat injury and without proper medical attention a victim can die within minutes. It is caused when the body's heat regulatory mechanism stops. Symptoms are headache, dizziness, delirium, weakness, nausea, red-hot skin, and unconsciousness. Victims can be treated by providing a cool, shaded area, soak clothing, feet elevated, and fanned.

When working or playing outside in the summer, take breaks, drink plenty of fluids and be a good Wingman.

(by MSgt. Pelham Myers Jr., 169th FW/PA)

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Flight, came to McEntire to say goodbye to his dad and remained to watch the C-17 aircraft depart. Alex said he would miss his dad, but was going to try to stay in touch on "SKYPE," e-mail and hopefully phone calls.

Talbert, along with his sister Elizabeth, 9, said their father has deployed before. They said they will try to keep busy with summer activities until he returns.

Family Programs volunteer, Susan Meisner, spouse of MSgt. Steve Meisner of the 169th Maintenance Operations Flight, said she has assisted families of deploying Airmen for more than 14 years. She said a team of volunteers will be calling family members to ensure they are coping well while their loved ones are overseas.

"We have a great command emphasis on taking care of families here at McEntire," said Meisner. "When the commander knows it's important, everybody knows it's important."

(Story by Capt. Cindi King, 169th FW/PA)



(Photos by MSgt. Marvin Preston, 169th FW/PA)

Swamp Foxes board the plane at the south ramp of the runway and family members wave as the plane takes off.

## Swamp Fox HAZMAT team has "tunnel" vision

At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, military leaders foresaw the devastation chemical agents could cause in battle. After witnessing the horrific effects of mustard gas in World War I, most countries renounced chemicals and bio-hazards as weapons by supporting the Hague Conferences and Geneva Convention.

Despite these efforts, deploying weapons of this type is currently one of the biggest threats facing the world, as terrorists look to cause the most harm to the greatest number of people in any location.

To combat this threat at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, the Installation Emergency Response Unit recently established a Hazardous Material (HAZMAT) team. The team, comprises of seven Swamp



The team learns how to do vehicle extractions.

Fox personnel, who recently attended a three day "Tunnel Training" event at the Center for National Response in West Virginia. There, they tested their HAZMAT skills by responding to a variety of intense training scenarios.

"We entered an underground cave wearing Level A HAZMAT suits while testing, detecting and collecting data in a simulated terrorist chemical lab," said Master Sgt. Jamie Powell.

The team trained with other Guard units, a total of 56 personnel, each testing their skills and

equipment in urban and underground chemical, explosive and bio-hazard settings.

"Our emergency responders are structured in that Security Forces isolate and secure a suspicious area. If the Fire Department determines an area might contain explosives, chemicals or bio-hazards, we come in," said Powell.

The team nicknames the HAZMAT suit, a "Gumby" suit, after the 1950s green clay animated television character. The suit with oxygen tank weighs about 40 pounds. Each oxygen tank holds air for about an hour.

"There are different levels of training credentials, those being HAZMAT awareness, operations and technician. All of us have attained the technician level," said Powell.

"We've already been called to respond to two suspicious packages on base," said Senior Master Sgt. Dwayne Ayers, the Installation Emergency Manager. "Fortunately they were false alarms."

The HAZMAT team's goal is to continue training and honing their skills with on base first responders. They are outfitting their HAZMAT truck and adding equipment to increase their response capabilities, said Ayers.

(Story by Capt. Cindi King, 169th FW/PA)



The team puts on the protective suits before training in an urban and under-ground chemical, explosive and bio-hazard setting.

**Anti-terrorism Officer**  
Lt. Col. Paul Laymon

**Installation Emergency Manager**  
SMSgt. Dwayne Ayers

**Emergency Managers**  
SMSgt. Jamey Edwards  
MSgt. Jamie Powell  
TSgt. Jessica Feil  
SrA. Varetta Dye

**Bioenvironmental**  
MSgt. Mitch Campbell

# McEntire has gone green to stay clean

The Environmental Management Office here on base hosted McEntire's Environmental Kick-Off to celebrate Earth Day, April 22. The day started with Swamp Foxes meeting in the canteen and headed out to clean up the woodline behind the running track, to plant flowers at



Col. Scott Williams is presented with his "McEntire Has Gone Green" T-shirt by 2nd Lt. Walter Woods.

a lunch of hamburgers and hotdogs and a proclamation by Col. Scott Williams, 169th Fighter Wing Commander. Free T-shirts with the Recycling Swamp Fox logo on them, were given to all who attended.

Allison said, "McEntire has been recycling for more than five years, this is just one more way of showing that we are making a difference in the environment."

"Col. Williams and Lt. Col. Keck have been very helpful in getting this program going," said Allison. "Waste minimization is our key focus."

McEntire uses Sonoco for the recycling pickup. The large blue office paper containers have been positioned in hallways for many

the back side of the fighter wing building, and then out to clean up Dry Branch Pond, the large pond with the pavilion next to it.

Lt. Col. Allen White, 2nd Lt. Walter Woods and S.C. State employee Robert Allison, from the Environmental Management Office, arranged the day's events that included

years. Soon there will be more containers brought out so aluminum, plastic, and cardboard can be collected on base and also picked up by Sonoco. The amount McEntire recycles gets recorded in pounds and reported regularly.

Woods said, "Not only has McEntire been concerned about recycling, but for more than 25 years, there has been a significant effort put into monitoring the ground water conditions around base."

There are 13 wells that monitor if any contaminates leach into the ground from base activities, past or present. Routine checks are performed on the water supply to protect all the people living around the base that use well water. The standards McEntire follows are set by South Carolina Department Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC).

Woods said that there used to be a landfill on base and that is one reason for concern of contamination. But a more serious issue is the fact that there is still current dumping in the woodline and the pond area. There are dumpsters all around the base. Please use them. If you see a violation, report it.

Cliff McKinney, Natural Resource Manager and Van Jackson, Civil Engineering Pavement and Grounds Supervisor, were out cleaning up around the pond for several hours.

They don't just do this on Earth Day, this is a normal activity for them.

"It is a never ending job cleaning up around here, people leave their drink cups and cans, trash, and even old broken gas grills," said Jackson. "If people would just clean up after themselves, then there wouldn't be an is-



Robert Allison drags a large metal box out of the woods.



Lt. Col. Lorinda Keck, Capt. Heather Leite, MSgt. Selina Chavez, and Melissa Mitrik design the layout of the flower bed.



Lt. Col. Lorinda Keck plants Encore Azaleas, Daylilies, and Irises as part of the Earth Day celebration.



Cliff McKinney and Van Jackson clean up trash around Dry Branch Pond.

sue.”

McKinney pointed out that everyone who uses the pond area has to be a current SCANG or SCARNG member, retiree or dependent of a National Guard member.

“We need to all remember that we share this area. In order to fish in the pond, everyone must fill out a form and agree to the terms and conditions,” said McKinney. “We check everyone’s license and we make sure that the base regulations are followed.”

In the proclamation given by Col. Williams, he stated:



Cliff McKinney wades in the water to retrieve trash.

- Release all bass 15 inches and under
- Limit of 5 “keeper” size bass per fisherman per day
- Limit of 12 “keeper” size bream per fisherman per day
- Must have a valid South Carolina fishing license to fish on McEntire
- Remove all trash from the pond site or risk losing your fishing privileges
- No boats allowed in the pond

*“McEntire JNGB is the beneficiary of an abundance of natural resources, including clean air, clean water, and hundreds of acres of pristine woodlands, wetlands, and pastures; and working together to protect these natural resources is essential to the continued quality of life of the personnel and inhabitants of McEntire JNGB; and the 2010 observance of Earth Day provides a unique opportunity for personnel across the base to promote environmental stewardship by setting goals and taking actions to lessen the negative impact on the environment.*

*I encourage all airmen and base personnel to work together to ensure the preservation of our natural resources now and for future generations.”*



Col. Williams reads the base Environmental Proclamation.

(Story and Photos by Staff Sgt. Tracci Dorgan, 169th FW/PA)

# The time has come to migrate to the Air Force Portal

Whether you're new to the SCANG or you've been here awhile, you've most likely experienced the McEntire Intranet - it's the webpage you see when you're connected to the McEntire LAN and click on an Internet Explorer Icon. Although this webpage has served and continues to serve great purposes, it's destined to go away.

The Air Force and Air National Guard Bureau have tasked wings to put information traditionally found on intranets to dedicated locations on the Air Force Portal. For the past year, SMSgt. Edward Snyder with the 169th FW Public Affairs Office has been managing the foundational webpage from which the remaining information from the intranet will be transferred. (To see the webpage, go to the AFPortal; underneath the "BASES-ORGS-FUNCTIONAL AREAS, etc" Drop-down Box, select "Organiza-

tions A-Z"; type: **169 FW** in the search bar beneath "Organizations A-Z Index"; and select 169 FW.)

As previously mentioned, the McEntire Intranet is destined to go away. Why? The server that manages the webpage is not required to be maintained. If it becomes inoperable, there will be no replacement and the intranet will disappear. Further, because the transfer to the AFPortal is a requirement (Lt. Gen. Michael Peterson's Memorandum, *Web Content Migration*, 13 June 2006), it's something the UCI Inspection Team can easily inspect. So, what do we do?

Determine if your organization has a need for an AFPortal Page.

Look at the organizational drop-down boxes at the top of the McEntire Intranet webpage.

Is your unit/organization listed?

Do you have a need for personnel to access information specific to your unit/shop?

If you have a need for a portal page, find out if your unit has an appointed AFPortal Content Publisher. An AFPortal Content Publisher will:

- 1) need to be appointed in writing by their unit commander;
- 2) complete CBTs;
- 3) complete additional training before creating an AFPortal Webpage.

The next AFPortal Content Publisher training will be held at the Maintenance Hangar Classroom (2nd Floor) date will be confirmed at a later date.

For further information, please contact the Wing Knowledge Operations Functional/Resource Manager, TSgt. Jeffrey "Tango" Tengencong, 169 CF/SCXK, at DSN 583-8765.

(by TSgt. Jeffrey Tengencong, 169th CF)

**SCANG Recruiters 1-800-432-2754 187-SWAMPFOX www.goang.com**

## McEntire JNGB

### MSgt. Brad Gibson

Recruiting & Retention Superintendent  
Officer Recruiter  
(803) 647-8414 BB: (803) 315-7419

## Village at Sandhills Recruiters

### TSgt. Brian Bailes

(803) 462-0455  
BB: (803) 315-7482

## Shaw AFB

### TSgt. Steve David

#### Recruiter

(803) 895-4790  
BB: (803) 608-3098

### MSgt. Ceomara Timmons

Retention Office Manager  
Palace Chase/Palace Front  
and Guard Transfers  
(803) 647-8211

### TSgt. Topeka Blackwell

(803) 462-0455  
BB: (803) 351-0939

## Charleston AFB

### SSgt. James Rodriguez

#### Recruiter

(803) 647-8085  
BB: (803) 391-6348



(Photo by Capt. Cindi King, 169th FW/PA)

Members of the SCANG gathered for a prayer breakfast early Sunday morning in the Dining Facility during May's drill weekend. This was the first prayer breakfast held at McEntire since 2005 and was hosted by Chaplain (Major) Brian Bohlman. SCANG members led prayers for our nation, our deploying personnel and our local community. Angel Metz sang during the prayer breakfast. The National Day of Prayer dates back to the Civil War. Here, SSgt. Joseph Pender, TSgt. Jessica Guiry and SMSgt. Sarah Edwards join hands in prayer.

(by Maj. Jim St. Clair, 169th FW/PA)

# JROTC brings their talent to the Top Gun Drill Meet



Hundreds of South Carolina high school Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets recently competed in the annual Top Gun Drill Meet at McEntire, April 17.

These Junior ROTC cadets from 26 state high schools competed for a total of 46 awards and trophies, the top being the prestigious Governor's

Trophy going to the overall winner. The all-day event was hosted by the Recruiting Office of the South Carolina Air National Guard as a service to the state's high schools.

Each winning unit was presented a trophy by Brig. Gen. Grady Patterson, III the SCANG's assistant adjutant general for Air.

After presenting individual, squad and platoon awards, the overall winners were named. The best Air Force unit was Spring Valley High School. The best Army unit was

Airport High School and the best Navy/Marine Corps unit was Colleton County High School.

The 2010 overall winner was Spring Valley High School.

Volunteers from the Air National Guard, Active Associates, and active-duty Army from the recruiting school at Fort Jackson assisted as well as a host of civilians judged the events and assisted in the day's activities.

Patterson said, "I was very impressed with all the competitors. Their dedication and hard work were evident. They were all very sharp young men and women and I feel confident that the lessons learned in the JROTC program will give each of them a firm foundation from which to make solid contributions in their chosen fields in the future."

Patterson continued to compliment the day by saying, "The recruiters, along with a lot of support from other base personnel, did a great job in putting on this event. The Top Gun Drill Meet has the reputation of being the best meet in the area and McEntire hit another home run with this year's competition."



(by 169th FW/PA Photographers)



## SCANG Photographer wins national awards

A Swamp Fox photographer recently took home two awards from the National Guard Bureau's prestigious annual media contest.

TSgt. Caycee Cook placed first for her Combat Documentation Photo of a SCANG pilot in an F-16 cockpit during a KC-135 aerial refueling mission. She took the photo while the unit was participating at the Falcon Air Meet in Jordan, Nov. 2009. In order to get the award-winning photo, Cook had to crawl in the belly of the refueler and waited on the right shot to come to her.

"I actually had to lie prone and shoot the photo through a small window. I did not want to get in the way of the boom operator," said Cook.

Another one of her photos from the Falcon Air Meet placed third in the Portrait/Personality category. Cook added, "photographers need to be aware of their surroundings to find

the right photograph."

"There was a celebration going on and I noticed this member of the Royal Jordanian Air Force simply gazing out of a window and decided to take his picture," Cook said.

Cook, a SCANG member since 2002, said she usually shoots lots of photos of a particular subject and integrates all of the composition techniques she learned while attending the military's photography course located at the Defense Information School (DINFOS) at Fort George G. Meade, Md.

"I look for leading lines, interesting colors, different angles and facial expressions," said Cook.

Cook is currently supporting the Fighter Wing's AEF rotation to Joint Base Balad (JBB), where she is providing weapons systems video support and photographs for the JBB Public Affairs.

"I'm looking forward to the different environment for flight line photos," said Cook. "It will be a whole new set of backgrounds and colors."

(Story by Capt. Cindi King, 169th FW/PA)



TSgt. Caycee Cook watches out the window where the boom operator works during in-flight refueling.



Monday, May 3, my wife and I attended the main body send off along with some of the American Legion members. We got to talking about different things, and I became more aware of their needs. I brought the topic up at breakfast, and, being good citizens, we retirees decided to help them out. One of the outcomes of the May breakfast was we decided to donate \$200 to the American Legion Post 6 Baseball Program, they are sponsoring the Legion State Tournament this year and need some assistance.

Another note about the deployment is that Dot Spears, the Adjutant General's wife, came out to see our folks off. I thought that was very gracious of her. Along with her, the American Legion guys started shaking hands with the first group getting on the buses, and I was there with them, so the next thing I realized many of the other Guard people not deploying formed a line to send off the deploying members, it was neat and

an impromptu moment for all. There were thoughts and prayers for the two Army Guard pilots that went down the day before.

There was a hue and cry for more McEntire Retiree Shirts, which I will comply with. This time I will procure a white shirt with a dark blue logo that we had from last year. It will look very tasteful, and you can wear it with pride. Hopefully, I will have an initial order by the June breakfast and if others are interested let me know. I think the cost will be about the same, around \$20. I will get a variety of sizes initially, and if I have to re-order I can do this for a couple of months.

McEntire History: I am honoring the 1997 retirees, and in this group we have the following members: Col.'s John W. Marshall, Jr., and David V. Massey. Maj. David P. Seawell, CMSgt. Joseph F. Kopak, SMSgt. Joseph C. Wilson, MSgt.'s Jerry S. Steele, Nathaniel Thompson, David J. Weddington, Grady M. Merritt, James F. Hudson

and Kenneth R. March. TSgt.'s Willie L. Stocker, Jewell F. Lillard and John F. Dilella, and SSgt. Cindy Cooper.

Some things that happened during the month of June: In June 1948, the flying group deployed for the first time to Chatham Field, Ga., and in June 1954 we started flying the F-86A. In June 1977, the 169th TFG received its first Outstanding Unit Award, and again in June 1983. So, there is something mythical about the month of June for the 169th.

Our next breakfast will be June 2, at the NCO Club at Fort Jackson at 8:30 a.m. We will do our famed raffle (50/50) to the winner, and restock our coffers. As per tradition, we will have a luncheon in July, and I hope to have the Wing Commander, or his representative, to give us our annual update, or "The State of McEntire Address", at the luncheon, so plan accordingly. We hope to see you there.



## Retirement Celebration

Members of the SCANG Honor Guard performed a ceremonial folding of the American Flag at the Chiefs' Retirement Banquet, April 30 at Fort Jackson's NCO Club.

According to CMSgt. Robert Davis, "We had a good showing of retiree's and SCANG leadership."

More than 60 SCANG members and families were on hand to celebrate the careers of the retiring Swamp Foxes.

All the retiree's were given an opportunity to stand up in front of everyone and talk about their time in the Guard. Most of them thanked their families for standing beside them and then shared stories of their experiences.

Overall it was a great evening, said Davis.

(photo by MSgt. Marvin Preston., 169th FW/PA)

## Force Support Squadron changes command

South Carolina Air National Guard members gather at the Dining Facility Saturday, May 2 to be part of the change of command ceremony for the 169th Force Support Squadron. Col. Calvin Elam officiated as Lt. Col. Rita Whitmire relinquished command to Maj. Jack Phillips, who is assuming command of his first squadron.

Col. Elam emphasized that, although, this is a new frontier, "The knowledge, experience, and relationship with the National Guard Bureau that Maj. Phillips possesses should assist the SCANG in getting things done."

The mission of the Force Support Squadron is Force Development, Manpower and Personnel, Airman & Family Services and Sustainment Services. Their goal is to provide the highest level of customer service.



Maj. Jack Phillips accepts the Force Support Squadron flag from Col. Elam after Lt. Col. Whitmire has just given it back to Col. Elam as a representation of them resigning and taking over command of the squadron.

(by MSgt. Pelham Myers Jr., 169th FW/PA)

## MOVIN' In, Up, & On

### Enlistments

SSgt. Jason Dees, 169 MXS  
SSgt. Michael Stockslager, 169 AMXS  
SrA. Lee Scott, 169 MXS  
A1C. Sonovia Castillo, 169 MXS  
A1C. Keyron Choice, 169 LRS  
A1C. Ashley Douglas, 169 MDG  
A1C. Dakota Havel, 169 AMXS  
A1C. Benjamin Lawrence, 169 MXS  
A1C. Larry Nicholson, 169 AMXS  
A1C. Rocky Trammell, 169 AMXS  
A1C. Benjamin Williamson, 169 AMXS  
AMN. Elise Davis, 169 FSS

### Officer Promotions

#### First Lieutenant

Amber Goodman, 169 FW

### Enlisted Promotions

#### Senior Master Sergeant

Sarah Edwards, JFHQ-SC  
Robert White Jr., 169 AMXS

#### Master Sergeant

Robert Canfield, 169 LRS  
James Eubanks, 169 MXS  
William Simmons, 169 MSG

#### Technical Sergeant

Stephen Hudson, 169 FW  
Brian Nesbitt, 169 MXS  
Gerald Nicklow, 169 AMXS  
Jason Osborne, 169 AMXS  
Rose Wingate, 169 MXS

#### Staff Sergeant

Leonard Gajewski, 169 AMXS  
Cristina Jimenez, 169 CF  
Marquette Point, 169 AMXS

#### Senior Airman

Terry Bennett III, 169 MXS  
Nicholas Cooper, 169 SFS  
Justin Jones, 169 AMXS  
Danny Stubbs Jr, 169 SFS  
Samuel Wood, 169 FSS

## Top Achievers

### Outstanding Academic Achievement

#### SSgt. Joseph Hostler

169th Civil Engineer Squadron  
*Fire Inspector 1 Course*

#### SSgt. Randy Green

169th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron  
*Integrated Data Maintenance Systems Supervisors Course*

#### MSgt. Jeffery George

169th Maintenance Group  
*Weight and Balance Course*

#### MSgt. Brad Gibson

169th Maintenance Squadron  
*Human Resource Development Course (SNCOA)*

#### SSgt. Jose Peraza

169th Maintenance Squadron  
*Aerospace Maintenance Craftsman Course*

#### SrA. Mark Fowke

169th Medical Group  
*Airman Leadership School*

#### A1C. Nicholas Wilt

169th Maintenance Squadron  
*Integrated Avionics Systems Journeyman Course*

#### Maj. Jeffery Carder

157th Fighter Squadron  
*Air Command Staff College Joint Planning Course*

#### SSgt. Lonnie Johnson

169th Civil Engineer Squadron  
*Driver/Operator Course*

#### MSgt. Carmen Harkins

157th Fighter Squadron  
*Behavior Analysis Module (SNCOA)*

#### A1C. Ashleigh David

169th Fighter Wing  
*Command Post Apprentice Course*

## Base Training

*Airman Leadership School*  
(class start dates -- five-week duration)  
(56 seats for ANG members)

### 2010

July 12 - August 12

*Noncommissioned Officers Academy*  
(class start dates -- six-week duration)  
(75 seats for ANG members)

June 14 - June 29

July 6 - August 12

September 7 - October 14

*Chief's Executive Course*

June (TBD)

August 2-6

August 23-27

September 13-17

### TESTING SCHEDULE

**Tuesdays, 1 p.m.**

**Drill Sundays, 12:30 p.m.**

Report for testing no later than 15 minutes before the test. Members testing on CDCs required for upgrade training must bring their AFIADL 9 course card with the following items documented:

Date review training began  
Date due completion  
Date review training ended  
Supervisor's signature  
Trainee's signature

Members without the card and required information are not allowed to test. For more information, contact a unit training manager.

### All New NCOAGA

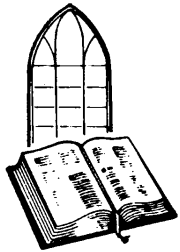
The NCO Academy Graduates Association and the Top 3 have combined to form an all new NCOAGA. Our next meeting will be on Saturday June 5th at 1500 hours in the maintenance classroom. All airmen who have completed ALS, NCOA or SNCOA correspondence or in residence are welcome. This is open to guardsmen and active associates. We are all Swamp Foxes! If you have any questions call MSgt Kevin Thomas at 803-361-1228.

## REFLECTIONS

*"Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, 'We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.' But the men who had gone up with him said, 'We can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are.' And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, 'The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size.' Numbers 13:30-32*

This story is where Moses and Aaron sent out twelve spies to do reconnaissance in the land of Canaan. This was the land God promised His people in Numbers 13:2. The report of "giants" inhabiting the land resulted in a negative response by the people. They decided to retreat instead of reclaiming the land God had promised them. As a result of their disobedience to God, those who retreated were left to wander in the wilderness. As we continue in our lives, there will always be "giants". God never promised it would be easy, but He did promise we would never be alone. There are two options, retreat or reclaim. If we retreat we may miss out on the wonderful blessings on the other side of hardships. The other option is to reclaim the promises of God, by the power of God, within the providence of God. His word contains promises for His children for every circumstance we may face. Overcoming the situations we face daily can be accomplished through the power of God.

By Chaplain (Capt.) Shane Moore



### Worship Schedule Saturday

Maintenance (hangar) & SFS after rollcall-

### Sunday

8-8:30 a.m. - "Chapel Now" (WG HQ Auditorium)

10:30-10:55 a.m. "Chapel Next" (Dining Facility)

1:30-2 p.m. - Catholic Mass

in the LRS conference room (Father Travis)

## What's for Lunch?

### Saturday

Pork Chops w/Mushroom Gravy

Spaghetti \* Mashed Potatoes

Peas \* Carrots \* Broccoli

### Snackline

Hamburger \* Hot Dogs

French Fries

### Sunday

BBQ Beef \* Roast Turkey \* Hoppin' John

Yams \* Collard Greens \* Succotash

### Snackline

Corn Dogs \* Hot Wings

French Fries

The Dining Facility is open 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Everyone using the facility must present a valid ID card.

## Thank You Swamp Foxes

Laurie McMillian, spouse of the late MSgt. James "Mac" McMillian, extends her deepest gratitude to the Swamp Foxes at McEntire for the outpouring of support during her and her family's time of loss and grief. They were overwhelmed with love and friendship during the difficult days following Mac's death. Thank you to everyone for your kindness and generosity.

## BLOOD DRIVES!

There will be blood drives in  
the canteen on:

6 June

8 August

Goal is to get 75 pints

## Swamp Fox Litter

**Ernest DuPre Harmon**  
was born February 17, 2010 to  
Capt. Gerald and Nicole Harmon

**Preston Travis Amos**  
was born May 3, 2010 to  
TSgt. Stuart and Natalie Amos

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